

News Release



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Record-breaking Reservations Indicate Busy Camping Season Ahead

SACRAMENTO – When August reservations opened on Thursday, California State Parks received 17,000 reservations, representing 65,000 camping nights.

“This has been the most successful February first that I have seen in the history of the California Park System,” said Jim Luscutoff, Chief of the Concessions, Reservations and Fees Division for California State Parks.

Luscutoff credits the success to advancements in technology and increases in call center staff, which have enabled ReserveAmerica call center operators and the online booking system to process reservations quicker. In the first seven minutes, they processed roughly 1,500 reservations. In the first hour they processed more than 10,000 reservations.

Whether it's for a weekend or longer, camping at a California State Park campground has been called one of the best vacation deals around, with reasonable fees and plenty of picturesque scenery to enjoy. There is usually a park close to home that offers visitors a respite from the pressures of everyday life; a place to spend quality time with family and friends.

Reservations can go fast, so visitors who find themselves having trouble getting the campsite or cabin of choice, can try the following tips:

- Consider less busy days. Sometimes reservations are easier to make if you camp mid-week.
- Consider less popular parks. Southern coastal campgrounds can be full year-round.
- It may be easier to secure a reservation at a state park north of Santa Cruz or inland. Look for sites that are more remote, away from major metropolitan areas.
- Remember the holiday crush. The busiest camping days are on Memorial Day weekend, the Fourth of July, and Labor Day weekend.
- Consider checking for any cancellations on the Reserve America Web site or by phone. Cancellations are rare, but they do occur.
- Remember the "shoulder season." The months of April, May, September and October are usually less popular making them easier to reserve. The weather is usually mild.

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For energy efficient recreation –
California State Parks on the Internet: <<http://www.parks.ca.gov>>

